

Remarks

The Office Action mailed September 21, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-15 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-15 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jacobson (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,227) is respectfully traversed.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner for courtesies extended to the Applicant and Applicant's representatives during a telephonic interview conducted November 17, 2004. During the interview, the independent claims were discussed in view of Jacobson (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,227) and in view of Ellenburg (U.S. Patent No. 5,983,518). During the interview, the Examiner requested additional limitations be added to the claims to describe the claimed invention more clearly.

Jacobson describes an accessory 10 that attaches to a golf cart 15 via a securing strap 35 that is wrapped around a pole 20 of golf cart 15. Specifically, a second end 32 of securing strap 35 wraps around pole 20 and is pulled through a latch 70 to secure strap 35 against pole 20. A first end 34 of securing strap 35 extends a distance outwardly from pole 20 and away from golf cart 15. A card 40 is coupled to and suspended from the portion of securing strap 35 extending outwardly from pole 20. Card 40 includes a glove attachment device 50 for securing the glove thereto to facilitate drying the glove.

Claim 1 recites a golf cart that includes "at least one external surface...an apparatus for coupling a glove to said at least one external surface, said apparatus comprising a body comprising an inner surface and an outer surface that extends between a first end and an opposite second end, said body being a sheet material coupled to said golf cart such that said inner surface remains in substantial contact against said at least one external surface during operation of said golf cart, and is substantially concentrically aligned with said at least one external surface, said body outer surface comprising at least one fastening mechanism for

removably coupling a glove to said body such that the glove remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of said golf cart.”

Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a golf cart as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a golf cart including an apparatus including a body having an inner surface and an outer surface that extends between a first end and an opposite second end, wherein the body is a sheet material and the apparatus is coupled to the golf cart such that the inner surface remains in substantial contact against the at least one external surface, with the at least one external surface during operation of the golf cart. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Jacobson describes an accessory that attaches to a golf cart via an end securing strap, such that an opposite end of the strap is positioned a distance outwardly from the golf cart. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson.

Claims 2-6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-6 likewise are patentable over Jacobson.

Claim 7 recites a golf cart that includes “a passenger compartment...at least one frame support adjacent to said passenger compartment...a dashboard adjacent to said passenger compartment...a roof extending over at least a portion of said passenger compartment... a glove drying system coupled to an external surface of at least one of said passenger compartment, said at least one frame support, said dashboard, and said roof, said golf drying system comprising a first end, a second end, and a body extending therebetween, said body being a sheet material comprising an inner surface and an outer surface, said body coupled to said golf cart such that substantially all of said inner surface remains against said golf cart external surface during operation of said golf cart, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the external surface, said body outer surface comprises at least one fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove to said system such that the glove remains coupled to said fastening mechanism between said first end and said second end during operation of said golf cart”

Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a golf cart as recited in Claim 7. More specifically, Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a golf drying system including a first end, a second end, and a body extending therebetween that includes being a sheet material and having an inner surface and an outer surface, wherein the body is coupled to the golf cart such that substantially all of the inner surface remains against a golf cart external surface during operation of the golf cart. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Jacobson describes an accessory that attaches to a golf cart via an end securing strap, such that an opposite end of the strap is positioned a distance outwardly from the golf cart. As such, the apparatus described in Jacobson does not include an inner surface that remains in substantial contact against an external surface of the golf cart between a first end and a second end of the apparatus. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson.

Claims 8-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 8-12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 8-12 likewise are patentable over Jacobson.

Claim 13 recites a method of drying a damp golf glove, wherein the method includes “providing a golf glove drying system that includes a body having an inner surface and an opposite outer surface and being a sheet material such that each surface extends between a first end and an opposite second end, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the outer surface; coupling the golf glove drying system to the golf cart such that substantially all of the body inner surface between the first end and the second end remains in contact with an external surface of the golf cart during operation of the golf cart; and removably coupling a golf glove to the golf cart using at least one fastening mechanism extending from the body outer surface, such that the golf glove remains suspended from the golf glove drying system between the first end and the second end during operation of the golf cart.”

Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a method of drying a damp golf glove as recited in Claim 13. More specifically, Jacobson does not describe nor suggest coupling a golf glove drying system to a golf cart such that substantially all of a body inner surface between a first end and a second end remains in contact with an external surface of the golf

cart, is a sheet material, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the outer surface. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Jacobson describes an accessory that attaches to a golf cart via an end securing strap, such that an opposite end of the strap is positioned a distance outwardly from the golf cart. As such, the apparatus described in Jacobson does not include an inner surface that remains in substantial contact against an external surface of the golf cart between a first end and a second end of the apparatus. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson.

Claims 14-15 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14-15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 14-15 likewise are patentable over Jacobson.

The rejection of Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ellenburg (U.S. Patent No. 5,983,518) is respectfully traversed.

Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer 10 that attaches to a golf cart. Golf glove dryer 10 includes a hollow shell 12 having a first open end 14 and a second open end 16. First end 14 attaches to a shaft 19 that extends outwardly from a clamp 20 for a distance. Clamp is coupled to a roof support 32 of the golf cart such that hollow shell 12 is positioned exterior to the golf cart. Glove 36 is positioned over second end 16 and glove wrist fastener 38 is secured to glove wrist portion 40 thereby securing glove around hollow shell 12. Cross members 18 hold glove 36 in an open position, allowing air flow through hollow shell 12 into glove 36.

Claim 1 recites a golf cart that includes "at least one external surface...an apparatus for coupling a glove to said at least one external surface, said apparatus comprising a body comprising an inner surface and an outer surface that extends between a first end and an opposite second end, said body being a sheet material coupled to said golf cart such that said inner surface remains in substantial contact against said at least one external surface during operation of said golf cart, and is substantially concentrically aligned with said at least one external surface, said body outer surface comprising at least one fastening mechanism for

removably coupling a glove to said body such that the glove remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of said golf cart.”

Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a golf cart as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a golf cart including an apparatus including a body having an inner surface and an outer surface that extends between a first end and an opposite second end, wherein the body is a sheet material formed in substantially a cylinder and the apparatus is coupled to the golf cart such that the inner surface remains in substantial contact against the at least one external surface, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the at least one external surface during operation of the golf cart. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that attaches to a golf cart via a shaft extending outwardly a distance from the golf cart. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg.

Claims 2-6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-6 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg.

Claim 7 recites a golf cart that includes “a passenger compartment...at least one frame support adjacent to said passenger compartment...a dashboard adjacent to said passenger compartment...a roof extending over at least a portion of said passenger compartment... a glove drying system coupled to an external surface of at least one of said passenger compartment, said at least one frame support, said dashboard, and said roof, said golf drying system comprising a first end, a second end, and a body extending therebetween, said body being a sheet material comprising an inner surface and an outer surface, said body coupled to said golf cart such that substantially all of said inner surface remains against said golf cart external surface during operation of said golf cart, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the external surface, said body outer surface comprises at least one fastening mechanism for removably coupling a glove to said system such that the glove remains coupled to said fastening mechanism between said first end and said second end during operation of said golf cart.”

Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a golf cart as recited in Claim 7. More specifically, Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a golf drying system including a first end, a second end, and a body extending therebetween that includes being a sheet material having an inner surface and an outer surface, wherein the body is coupled to the golf cart such that substantially all of the inner surface remains against a golf cart external surface during operation of the golf cart, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the external surface. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that attaches to a golf cart via a shaft extending outwardly a distance from the golf cart. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg.

Claims 8-12 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 8-12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 8-12 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg.

Claim 13 recites a method of drying a damp golf glove, wherein the method includes “providing a golf glove drying system that includes a body having an inner surface and an opposite outer surface and being a sheet material such that each surface extends between a first end and an opposite second end, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the outer surface; coupling the golf glove drying system to the golf cart such that substantially all of the body inner surface between the first end and the second end remains in contact with an external surface of the golf cart during operation of the golf cart; and removably coupling a golf glove to the golf cart using at least one fastening mechanism extending from the body outer surface, such that the golf glove remains suspended from the golf glove drying system between the first end and the second end during operation of the golf cart.”

Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest a method of drying a damp golf glove as recited in Claim 13. More specifically, Ellenburg does not describe nor suggest coupling a golf glove drying system to a golf cart such that substantially all of a body inner surface between a first end and a second end remains in contact with an external surface of the golf cart, and is substantially concentrically aligned with the outer surface. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that attaches to a golf cart via a

shaft extending outwardly a distance from the golf cart. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg.

Claims 14-15 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14-15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 14-15 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



William J. Zychlewicz
Registration No. 51,366
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070